

As Coach Dykes says, I can't wait to watch you play.

So riff, ram, bah zoo, go Frogs.

In God we trust.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF THE HONORABLE A. DONALD MCEACHIN

(Ms. SPANBERGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today, a day after we celebrated the life of A. DONALD MCEACHIN, to again on the House floor remember the life and legacy of my friend, my mentor, and, as he used to call me, his neighbor. When I was first running for Congress, Mr. McEachin, Donald, used to tell people: I need a new neighbor in Virginia.

I had the privilege of working closely with him, learning from him, and being his friend throughout our service together in Congress and our work across our shared communities.

He was a good man who endeavored to make others feel heard throughout his career, whether he was in the courtroom, in the Virginia General Assembly, or here in Congress.

For decades, he served his community each day with a passion for people, a sense of humor, and an abiding faith in God. He was a relentless advocate for those who needed a voice, our natural resources, and every Virginian.

His passing leaves a hole in the hearts of so many. I will miss my friend, my brother, my mentor, and I stand here on the House floor to give my deepest condolences to his beloved wife, Colette; his wonderful, adored children, Mac, Briana, and Alexandra; and his beloved grandbaby.

He will be missed. We will continue to do right in his memory and in his honor.

CONGRATULATING DR. BRIAN TROOP

(Mr. SMUCKER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Brian Troop of Ephrata Area School District in Pennsylvania's 11th Congressional District for being selected as the 2023 Pennsylvania Superintendent of the Year by the Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators.

With over 500 districts in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Dr. Troop's selection speaks to the excellence he brings to Ephrata Area School District.

Dr. Troop was described as an exemplary, forward-thinking leader by PASA Executive Director Dr. Sherri Smith. I would certainly agree with those words.

I have had the pleasure of visiting the school district as a Member of Congress, and I was able to see firsthand the work that they are doing to pre-

pare students in STEM technologies as fifth-grade students were participating in a computer coding project. It was encouraging to see the district offer such an outstanding opportunity to their students.

I thank Dr. Troop for all of his work to provide an excellent education to students in the Ephrata Area School District. I congratulate him on being named the 2023 Pennsylvania Superintendent of the Year.

STOP POLITICAL FUNDRAISING SCHEMES

(Ms. PORTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, getting Congress to enact widespread campaign finance reform feels as likely as getting snow in Orange County this Christmas. However, it shouldn't take a once-in-a-century holiday miracle to get Washington to stop political fundraising scams.

Con artists are exploiting loopholes in our election laws by fraudulently misrepresenting themselves as collecting donations meant for causes and candidates. These scam PACs actually use the money to line their own pockets. Worse, they target older Americans and veterans.

As a consumer protection attorney, I will always work to hold fraudsters accountable. With a Republican colleague, I have introduced legislation to help the Federal Election Commission punish these bad actors.

Americans of all political ideologies who participate in our democracy by donating shouldn't have to fear being cheated. I urge passage of my bipartisan bill to stop scam PACs.

YOU CAN'T MAKE THIS STUFF UP

(Mr. CLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLINE. Mr. Speaker, American families are ready for a joyous holiday season. Unfortunately, the Biden administration is the grinch that stole Christmas, as its failed Green New Deal agenda is forcing folks to pay record-high costs to heat their homes, fuel their cars, and feed their families.

From diesel to fuel oil, energy prices have skyrocketed. Households will pay an average of \$1,359 on energy bills this winter, the highest in 25 years.

Diesel prices are up 50 percent, and we shouldn't be surprised. President Biden likes to say: "I guarantee you, we are going to end fossil fuel." He has worked with the Pelosi majority to continue to push anti-energy policies.

Just last week, the Biden White House doubled down, saying they are still committed to phasing out fossil fuels. Well, they should look at what is happening over in Europe. After the European Union struck a deal to ban

new fossil fuel cars and speed up the switch to electric vehicles, Switzerland is now going to ban electric vehicles if it faces blackouts this winter. You can't make it up.

It is time for this administration to end its war on American energy. If we are going to regain our energy independence, we need an all-of-the-above approach.

HONORING ALBRIGHT COLLEGE'S TOTAL EXPERIENCE LEARNING MODEL

(Ms. HOULAHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, as students across this country are readying to take their finals and midterms, I want to recognize Albright College's work to innovate education in the United States.

Albright's Total Experience Learning Dual Enrollment program lets high school juniors and seniors enroll in college courses and allows them to complete an entire semester of coursework before they even begin college. As a former high school chemistry teacher and leader of a literacy nonprofit myself, I am so proud of this successful program.

Next week, the president of Albright College will be at the United Nations, where Albright will be recognized by a science subcommittee of the United Nations as the innovative K-12 educator model for the United Nations International Year of Glass.

Without a doubt, the students and staff of Albright's Total Experience Learning are force multipliers, and it is my honor to represent and support all the forward-thinking constituents, businesses, and academic institutions like Albright within our Sixth Congressional District.

HIGHLIGHTING HELLS CANYON COLLABORATIVE

(Mr. FULCHER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Speaker, our country is blessed with abundant natural resources that are the envy of the world. The governance of those resources is the responsibility of all of us to make our outdoor spaces manageable and accessible for enjoyment of all.

I am pleased to highlight the Hells Canyon Recreation Collaborative in my home State of Idaho. This collaborative was formed in December 2016 after a fee for boaters was proposed on the Snake River through Hells Canyon. Rafters, jet boaters, aviators, motorized recreation users, and others came together for its formation. As a 501(c)(3), they identified and raised separate resources so access could be maintained without a user fee increase.

Additionally, the collaborative was able to build boat rigs, complete the building of administrative and recreation facilities for the Forest Service and an airstrip for aviators, as well as provide road maintenance for administrative sites.

I am so proud to highlight the men and women who stepped up and made a difference for the benefit of all in the Hells Canyon river area. I look forward to hearing about more good work from them.

□ 0915

CONGRESS MUST ADDRESS THE DEBT CEILING

(Mr. LEVIN of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEVIN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address a looming crisis facing our country. This one is a man-made crisis, one born out of cruel political calculations.

Mr. Speaker, I am referring to the threat of some of our Republican colleagues to refuse to raise the debt ceiling next year, unless their most extreme demands are met, and they have made clear what those demands are.

They believe this threat is how they can finally force cuts to the Social Security benefits that millions of Americans have earned. This threat is how they are going try to raise the retirement age. This is how they want to force cuts to Medicare.

They are prepared to force a default and create catastrophic consequences for our economy and America's standing in the world, so they can slash Social Security and Medicare.

We can't let that happen. We must address the debt ceiling. The consequences if we don't act are too grave.

To all of my colleagues, we must not hold Social Security and Medicare hostage. We must address the debt ceiling as soon as possible.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DAVID "WALLY" WALLER

(Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. C. SCOTT FRANKLIN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of David "Wally" Waller, a Polk County, Florida, native who passed away last month at the age of 67 following a courageous battle with cancer.

Wally was a hero to our community in more ways than one, beginning with his 25-year career in law enforcement. After retiring, he became a hero to countless children while serving as program coordinator for the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve's Toys for Tots program.

Under Wally's leadership, Polk County's Toys for Tots was named the top program in the United States last year

with more than 57,000 toys collected for over 14,000 children. Those who volunteered with him said he was the heart and soul of Toys for Tots, a title he richly deserved.

On behalf of our community, thank you, Wally and "Well done, thy good and faithful servant."

RESPECT FOR MARRIAGE ACT

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 1510, I call up the bill (H.R. 8404) to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act and ensure respect for State regulation of marriage, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto, and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the Senate amendment.

Senate amendment:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Respect for Marriage Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) No union is more profound than marriage, for it embodies the highest ideals of love, fidelity, devotion, sacrifice, and family.

(2) Diverse beliefs about the role of gender in marriage are held by reasonable and sincere people based on decent and honorable religious or philosophical premises. Therefore, Congress affirms that such people and their diverse beliefs are due proper respect.

(3) Millions of people, including interracial and same-sex couples, have entered into marriages and have enjoyed the rights and privileges associated with marriage. Couples joining in marriage deserve to have the dignity, stability, and ongoing protection that marriage affords to families and children.

SEC. 3. REPEAL OF SECTION ADDED TO TITLE 28, UNITED STATES CODE, BY SECTION 2 OF THE DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT.

Section 1738C of title 28, United States Code, is repealed.

SEC. 4. FULL FAITH AND CREDIT GIVEN TO MARRIAGE EQUALITY.

Chapter 115 of title 28, United States Code, as amended by this Act, is further amended by inserting after section 1738B the following:

"§1738C. Certain acts, records, and proceedings and the effect thereof

"(a) IN GENERAL.—No person acting under color of State law may deny—

"(1) full faith and credit to any public act, record, or judicial proceeding of any other State pertaining to a marriage between 2 individuals, on the basis of the sex, race, ethnicity, or national origin of those individuals; or

"(2) a right or claim arising from such a marriage on the basis that such marriage would not be recognized under the law of that State on the basis of the sex, race, ethnicity, or national origin of those individuals.

"(b) ENFORCEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The Attorney General may bring a civil action in the appropriate United States district court against any person who violates subsection (a) for declaratory and injunctive relief.

"(c) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—Any person who is harmed by a violation of subsection (a) may bring a civil action in the appropriate United States district court against the person who violated such subsection for declaratory and injunctive relief.

"(d) STATE DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'State' has the meaning given such term under section 7 of title 1."

SEC. 5. MARRIAGE RECOGNITION.

Section 7 of title 1, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"§ 7. Marriage

"(a) For the purposes of any Federal law, rule, or regulation in which marital status is a factor, an individual shall be considered married if that individual's marriage is between 2 individuals and is valid in the State where the marriage was entered into or, in the case of a marriage entered into outside any State, if the marriage is between 2 individuals and is valid in the place where entered into and the marriage could have been entered into in a State.

"(b) In this section, the term 'State' means a State, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or any other territory or possession of the United States.

"(c) For purposes of subsection (a), in determining whether a marriage is valid in a State or the place where entered into, if outside of any State, only the law of the jurisdiction applicable at the time the marriage was entered into may be considered."

SEC. 6. NO IMPACT ON RELIGIOUS LIBERTY AND CONSCIENCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this Act, or any amendment made by this Act, shall be construed to diminish or abrogate a religious liberty or conscience protection otherwise available to an individual or organization under the Constitution of the United States or Federal law.

(b) GOODS OR SERVICES.—Consistent with the First Amendment to the Constitution, nonprofit religious organizations, including churches, mosques, synagogues, temples, nondenominational ministries, interdenominational and ecumenical organizations, mission organizations, faith-based social agencies, religious educational institutions, and nonprofit entities whose principal purpose is the study, practice, or advancement of religion, and any employee of such an organization, shall not be required to provide services, accommodations, advantages, facilities, goods, or privileges for the solemnization or celebration of a marriage. Any refusal under this subsection to provide such services, accommodations, advantages, facilities, goods, or privileges shall not create any civil claim or cause of action.

SEC. 7. STATUTORY PROHIBITION.

(a) NO IMPACT ON STATUS AND BENEFITS NOT ARISING FROM A MARRIAGE.—Nothing in this Act, or any amendment made by this Act, shall be construed to deny or alter any benefit, status, or right of an otherwise eligible entity or person which does not arise from a marriage, including tax-exempt status, tax treatment, educational funding, or a grant, contract, agreement, guarantee, loan, scholarship, license, certification, accreditation, claim, or defense.

(b) NO FEDERAL RECOGNITION OF POLYGAMOUS MARRIAGES.—Nothing in this Act, or any amendment made by this Act, shall be construed to require or authorize Federal recognition of marriages between more than 2 individuals.

SEC. 8. SEVERABILITY.

If any provision of this Act, or any amendment made by this Act, or the application of such provision to any person, entity, government, or circumstance, is held to be unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act, or any amendment made thereby, or the application of such provision to all other persons, entities, governments, or circumstances, shall not be affected thereby.

MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I have a motion at the desk.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will designate the motion.

The text of the motion is as follows:

Mr. Nadler of New York moves that the House concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 8404.